

WESTERN HEMLOCK-DOUGLAS-FIR/SALAL-SWO

Tsuga heterophylla-*Pseudotsuga menziesii*/*Gaultheria shallon*

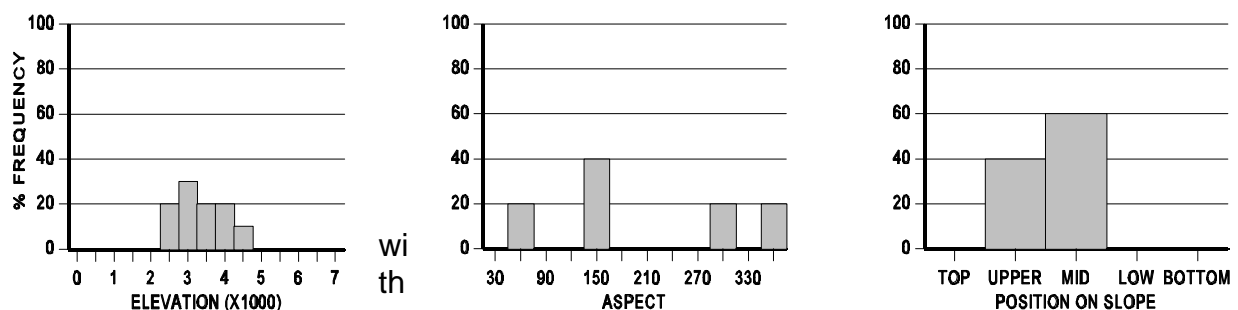
TSHE-PSME/GASH-SWO (N=5; FS=5)



Distribution. This Association is found on the Cottage Grove and North Umpqua Ranger Districts, Umpqua National Forest and the Illinois Valley and Powers Ranger Districts, Siskiyou National Forest. It is likely found on the Swiftwater Resource Area of the Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management.

Distinguishing Characteristics. This Association often occurs on dry, rocky sites on upper to middle-third slope positions. It is transitional to the Douglas-fir Series, as evidenced by the constancy and abundance of Douglas-fir regeneration and golden chinquapin cover.

Soils. Parent material is highly variable and may include chert, breccia, tephra, andesite, and granite. Based on four plots sampled, soils are moderately deep to deep, and well drained. Surface textures are loams with 30 to 60 percent rock fragments and 12 to 20 percent clay. Subsurface textures are loams and clay loams



with 30 to 60 percent rock fragments. The soil moisture regime is probably xeric and soil temperature regime is probably mesic. Soils classify into the following subgroups: Typic Xerumbrepts and Typic Xerochrepts.

Environment. This Association averages 3160 feet in elevation and aspect is variable. Slope averages 33 percent and ranges between 13 and 45 percent. This Association occurs on middle to upper thirds of slopes.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness is low for the Series, averaging 23. The overstory tree cover is dominated by Douglas-fir. Western hemlock is frequent, but at lower covers. The understory is dominated by western hemlock. It includes golden chinquapin and Douglas-fir regeneration averaging 14 percent and 11 percent cover, respectively. The hardwood component is dominated by the evergreen species, golden chinquapin, tanoak, and canyon live oak. Other hardwoods that may be present are vine maple, big-leaf maple, and Pacific dogwood. The shrub layer is dominated by salal and Pacific rhododendron. Dwarf Oregon grape is frequent at low covers, and red huckleberry and baldhip rose are common. Herbaceous species presence is variable, though whitevein pyrola and braken are frequently encountered. Moss cover is low for the Series, averaging only 9 percent.

Upper layer tree cover is lowest of the Series, averaging only 58 percent. Mid-layer tree cover is intermediate, averaging 55 percent and lower layer tree cover is very high, averaging 52 percent. Shrubs are a significant component of the structure in this Association. High shrubs average 40 percent cover, while low shrubs average 81 percent cover, the highest of the Series. Herb/grass cover ranges from 5 to 35 percent, and averages 16 percent.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Avg. Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				3
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	50	
Western hemlock	TSHE	100	10	
<u>Understory trees</u>				7
Western hemlock	TSHE	100	28	
Golden chinquapin	CACH6	100	14	
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	11	
Pacific madrone	ARME	60	2	
Incense-cedar	CADE27	60	1	
<u>Shrubs</u>				9
Salal	GASH	100	57	
Pacific rhododendron	RHMA3	100	40	
Dwarf Oregon grape	BENE2	100	5	
Baldhip rose	ROGY	80	2	
Red huckleberry	VAPA	80	2	
<u>Herbs</u>				7
Braken	PTAQ	80	3	
Whitevein pyrola	PYPI2	80	1	
Common beargrass	XETE	60	9	